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*Lathi charge by the Police at Bhimavaram on the 24th July 1932.*

* 153 *Q.*—Mr. C. INDRIAH: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there was a lathi charge at Bhimavaram on the 24th of July 1932 at 6 a.m.;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that Mr. Tallapragada Prakasa Rayudu, M.A., and others were mercilessly beaten;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that Mr. T. Prakasa Rayudu, M.A., received serious injuries on his head and hands;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that one of his hands was seriously injured; and

(*e*) whether it is a fact that he was removed to the local Government hospital for treatment?

*A.*—(*a*) *to* (*e*) The facts as reported by the District Magistrate are as follows:—

On the morning of 24th July 1932 at about 5 a.m. a party of some twenty Congress volunteers including two women were proceeding towards the chowk at Bhimavaram with a view to hold a taluk conference in support of civil disobedience. As the volunteers would not disperse after due warning, the Police dispersed them by a mild lathi charge. Three volunteers including the leader, Kasturi Prakasa Rayudu, received slight injuries, and Prakasa Rayudu was arrested. No more force than was necessary for the dispersal of the volunteers was used. Government have no information as to what medical treatment was given to Prakasa Rayudu.

Mr. C. INDRIAH:—" The report of the District Magistrate does not say anything about the parts of the body on which injuries were inflicted. Will the hon. the Home Member call for information as to the injuries received by Mr. Prakasa Rayudu on the head and hands? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Before the District Magistrate made his report, did he enquire Mr. Prakasa Rayudu about the alleged injuries received by him? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I have no information on that point."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Is it all an one-sided report then? "

*Acquittal of Mr. Somayajulu, Secretary, Buy Indian League, Narasapur.*

* 154 *Q.*—Mr. C. INDRIAH: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the fact that Mr. P. V. Somayajulu, Secretary of the Buy Indian League, Narasapur, West

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Godavari district, was acquitted in the criminal case launched against him; and

(b) if so, what action the Government are going to take against the Police officials who are responsible for launching the prosecution against him?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government have not yet examined the records of the case.

Mr. C. INDRIAH:—" May I request the hon. the Home Member to state whether any appeal has been preferred against the acquittal? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Do the Government propose to examine the records of the case and then take any necessary action in the matter? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Yes, Sir. The question will be considered."

### Police

*Alleged oppression of the Depressed Classes of the Devakottai subdivision.*

* 155 Q.—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) with regard to the allegations of oppression of the depressed classes in the Devakottai subdivision, what steps have been taken to mitigate such oppression;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Joint Magistrate of the subdivision is apathetic towards the depressed classes; and

(c) if the necessary information is not available, whether the Government will gather the information and place it on the table of the House?

A.—(a) The District Officers of Ramnad have taken such steps as are necessary to prevent breaches of the peace; a full report has been called for from the District Magistrate and the Labour Commissioner will shortly visit the area.

(b) The Government have no information to this effect.

(c) The Government have already called for information and will in due course make known the results of the enquiries made.

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" With reference to the answer to clause (a), may I know what the source of information for the Government is? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" We have received a report from the District Magistrate that some of the allegations were exaggerated. But Government were

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS